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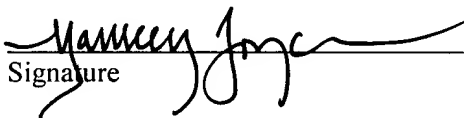
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kirwan et al.
Serial No: 09/744,698
Confirmation No: 3328
Filed: May 14, 2001
For: UNIVERSAL MODULAR SURGICAL APPLICATOR
SYSTEMS
Examiner: Roz Ghafoorian
Art Unit: 3763

#10
Am
S. Boyce
10/21/03

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RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 3, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this amendment.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this amendment.